

## Exhibitors Deny \$75,000 Job Offer and Criticize Hays

Say Senator Walker Will Not Be President and Decry Politics.

State Senator James J. Walker will not be the national president of the Motion Picture Theater Owners of America at \$75,000 a year, according to an announcement yesterday of the executive committee of the organization. A publication to the effect that the offer of the presidency had been made to the senator and that he had said he would accept it, the salary was \$75,000 brought an emphatic denial from the offices of the organization at 1422 Broadway, in which the engaging of Will Hays by the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association at a salary of \$150,000 a year—or is it \$100,000, as recently reported—is condemned and the charge made that his appointment was for political purposes.

The basis of the report of Senator Walker's selection for the post was a meeting of representatives of the Motion Picture Theater Owners of America at the Ritz-Carlton last Thursday night, at which it was said Marcus Loew suggested Walker for the post, that Hays endorsed the proposal, and that Walker averred he would accept.

The following statement was given out last night by the executive committee of the Motion Picture Theater Owners of America:

"Senator Walker was not offered the presidency of the Motion Picture Theater Owners of America by any person or persons authorized to make such an offer, as the only way the national president of the organization can be elected is by the delegates to the national convention," runs the official statement. "It is utterly absurd to assume that any man could be offered the presidency or become the president of the Motion Picture Theater Owners of America in any other way."

The announced payment of \$150,000 a year to Will H. Hays by some producers brought upon our entire industry the deserved censure of leading United States Senators and members of Congress. These national legislators were about convinced by theater owners' pleas of the unjust character of the tax levied upon our business, when suddenly they had the red flag of a salary twice that paid to the President of the United States flashed before them. They resented it and since then our Washington representatives have been busy explaining to our national lawmakers that Mr. Hays represented only producer elements and that the theater owners were no part of the group engaging him, had no connection or relations with him, and were in no sense parties to the payment of his inflated salary; save that it would be eventually gouged out of them by high prices for pictures.

"If the producers want to hire a professional politician to run their affairs for them that is their business. If there is not enough executive ability within the ranks of this special group of producers to conduct their business without going outside and engaging a politician, that is their misfortune."

"Then again the screens of the motion picture theaters, owned by the theater owners themselves, cannot be used for any political or other propaganda, no matter from what source this may proceed."

"In the motion picture theater owners of America are men and women of the highest type, with executive skill of the advanced order, who own their own theaters and who know how to conduct their own business. These theater owners are entirely capable of handling the business and conducting the affairs of the motion picture theater owners of America."

"Senator Walker has been national counsel of the Motion Picture Theater Owners of America. Because of political and legislative activities Senator Walker has been unable to give the necessary attention to the work of our organization, despite the fact that his retainer was \$1,000 a month. For fully five months Senator Walker has done nothing whatever for our organization, retainer was \$1,000 a month. His connection with the organization has been terminated."

## FORMER ANNA GOULD AND DE TALLEYRAND RECONCILED

### Child Here Almost Goes to Ellis Island



Violet Helene de Talleyrand-Perigord.

Divorce Suit in Court, They Leave Paris Together for Japan on World Tour to New York.

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The former Anna Gould has yielded to the persuasion of her husband, the Duke de Talleyrand-Perigord, thus ending, at least for the time being, all action for the divorce which has kept French and American society interested for several months. THE NEW YORK HERALD correspondent was informed to-day that the Duchess left this morning for Marseilles, accompanied by the Duke, who apparently has repented the peccadilloes which caused her application for a divorce.

From Marseilles the couple intend to sail for Japan, where they will spend the summer months, arriving in New York probably next September. After visiting with relatives there they will return to Paris, accompanied by their daughter, Violet, who is now in New York with Mrs. Finley J. Shepard.

Notwithstanding their departure together to-day, THE NEW YORK HERALD correspondent hears that the application for divorce has not been officially withdrawn from the courts. But probably that will be the next and final development.

fully before it drew her to the immigration station down the bay, where it makes its home.

Violet Helene de Talleyrand-Perigord is the daughter of the Duchess de Talleyrand-Perigord, the former Anna Gould, and a person of consequence despite her youth, but to the men in the brass buttons and visored caps she was merely a child under the age of 16, unaccompanied by parent or legal guardian. Violet was accompanied by Miss Althea Reaney, an English governess, but the law is silent concerning governesses.

The big French liner docked about 9 o'clock, unusually early, and Violet's aunt, Mrs. Finley J. Shepard, was still motoring down from Tarrytown when the gaupank swung on board. The immigration inspectors, compelled under the law to hold the child, telephoned to Ellis Island for instruction. Commissioner Robert E. Tod, at the immigration station, issued orders to hold a special board of inquiry on the Paris at once. The board convened and solemnly decided that Violet Helene de Talleyrand-Perigord was a person not likely to become a public charge or preach anarchy or otherwise misbehave and permitted her to enter the United States.

Meanwhile Mrs. Shepard arrived with a lawyer and everybody started back for Tarrytown perfectly happy. Like every other notable who enters the country, Violet had to be asked coming up the bay what she thought about the New York sky line. She decided, speaking English with a French accent that it was "very pretty."

Others on board the liner were Maurice Donnay and Louis Chevrolet, members of the French Academy, who are here to represent that body at the centenary celebration of Moliere, and were met by Gaston Liebert, Consul-General of France; Prof. Felix de La-persomme, Dr. P. Madigot and Dr. S. Gembloth, distinguished French medical men, who are here to attend the ophthalmological conference in Washington.

## Carnival to Mark Film Star Contest for Aid of Charity

Ten Days of Balloting for King and Queen Will Precede Ball.

Ten days of carnival will mark the motion picture popularity contest which begins next Saturday in connection with the May Festival for the benefit of the Association for the Improvement of the Condition of the Poor.

The voting for the King and Queen of Screenland starts Saturday night and ends on Tuesday night, May 9, with a brilliant ball at the Hotel Astor, where all who will may see the ceremony of coronation. While the choice is swaying in the balance a spirit of festival will fill the streets of the city. Gayly decorated booths will be raised in public squares, in hotels, in front of the theaters, and over them will preside many young women of society. A group of screen stars from the California studios are already on their way, and on their arrival they will be met by young women of society who will act as teams in the getting of votes throughout the city.

Every one who wishes may vote as often as he or she can spare ten cents for a worthy cause. Every dime which goes to the treasure chest will be given back to the community, for the money collected is for the poor.

The festivities accompanying this

drive for charity are under the direction of the May Carnival Committee, composed of men and women of social prominence who are deeply interested in welfare work and of leaders in the moving picture industry who have pledged their support.

Among the scores of society women who will act as patronesses of the carnival are Mrs. Charles B. Alexander, Mrs. Charles Amory, Mrs. Elliot C. Bacon, Mrs. George F. Baker, Jr., Mrs. Charles T. Darney, Mrs. August Belmont, Mrs. Hermann M. Biggs, Mrs. Harry Payne Bingham, Mrs. James G. Blaine, Jr., Mrs. Cornelius N. Bliss, Jr., Mrs. Philip Boyer, Mrs. William C. Breed, Mrs. James A. Burden, Jr., Mrs. Lewis L. Clarke, Mrs. Bird S. Coler, Mrs. Royal S. Copeland, Mrs. Paul D. Cravath, Mrs. J. S. Guzen, Mrs. Seymour L. Cromwell, Mrs. James F. Curtis.

The executive committee in charge of the affair consists of Mrs. Courtlandt D. Barnes, chairman; Courtlandt D. Barnes, James G. Blaine, Jr., Cornelius N. Bliss, Jr., E. H. Gary, Will H. Hays, Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, 24.

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Stylish models for all occasions  
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Copies of French Gowns  
Ready-to-wear priced from  
Ninety-five Dollars.

## DAUGHTER OF DUCHESS ARRIVES IN NEW YORK

Ellis Island loomed hideously before Violet Helene de Talleyrand-Perigord, 8 years old, for an hour after her arrival here yesterday on the French liner Paris. But it only loomed, for the octopus of red tape was appeased success-

## Gunther

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Most Charming Among  
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loose panels, that hang below coat line add to its slender effect. Other spring styles of Piquet Twill and Tricotine. Specially Priced

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